

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 were objected to because of the following informalities: private/public key renders the claim indefinite.

By this amendment, claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 have been changed to indicate that a private key and a public key are generated. Accordingly, this change should remove the Examiner's objection to claims 1, 7, 9 and 10.

Claims 1 and 6-15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Safai et al. (US 6,167,469).

By this amendment, independent claims 1 and 6-10 have been changed to more clearly set forth the present invention. As amendment, claims 1 and 6-10 particularly point out that a random seed is generated in the digital camera, and the random seed is used to generate a private key and a public key. No new matter has been added.

Amended claims 1 and 6-10 are believed to be patentable over Safai et al. Safai et al. teaches image authentication by storing a private key in a digital camera. However, Safai et al. fails to teach or suggest generating a random seed in the digital camera, and using the random seed to generate a private key and a public key, as set forth in amended claims 1 and 6-10. Accordingly, amended claims 1 and 6-10 are believed to be patentable over Safai et al. Claims 11-15 depend on amended claim 10, and are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claim 10. Withdrawal of the 102(e) rejection of claims 1 and 6-15 is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, new claims 16-21 have been added which respectively depend on amended claims 1 and 6-10. New claims 16-21 are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on their respective base claims.

Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Safai et al. (US 6,167,469) in view of Glass et al. (US 6,332,193).

By this amendment, claim 2 has been changed to more clearly set forth the present invention. More specifically, claim 2 has been amended to particularly point out that the digital camera includes an image sensor for capturing images, and that the processor includes means for producing a random seed for the private key by

processing an image captured from the image sensor so that the random noise level in the captured image is used in producing the random seed. These features are not taught or suggested in Safai et al. or Glass et al. Further, claims 2-5 depend on amended claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2-5 are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claim 1, and withdrawal of the 103(a) rejection of claims 2-5 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a telephone call to attend to these matters.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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